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August 20, 2003

VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Mr. Joseph Werner
Telecommunications Chief
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

Re: **TRADE SECRET PROTECTION REQUESTED**

**Cypress Communications Operating Company, Inc.'s Application For
a Certificate to Provide Competing Local and Interexchange
Telecommunications Services in the State of Tennessee, Docket No.
03-00316**

Dear Mr. Werner:

Pursuant to the Tennessee Regulatory Authority's (the "Commission") request dated August 7, 2003, attached hereto is the following financial information for Cypress Communications¹ and Cypress Communications Operating Company, Inc. (the "Applicant"):

1. Standalone financials for Cypress Communications, Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2002 (Exhibit 1);
2. Standalone financials for Cypress Communications, Inc. for the quarter ended March 31, 2003 (Exhibit 2);
3. Standalone financials for Cypress Communications, Inc. for the quarter ended June 30, 2003 (Exhibit 3);
4. Standalone financials for Cypress Communications Operating Company, Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2002 (Exhibit 4);
5. Standalone financials for Cypress Communications Operating Company, Inc. for the quarter ended March 31, 2003 (Exhibit 5);
6. Standalone financials for Cypress Communications Operating Company,

¹ U.S. RealTel, Inc. ("USRT"), a public shell/holding company with no operations of its own, is the parent company of Cypress Communications, Inc. Cypress Communications, Inc. is in turn the parent company of Cypress Communications Operating Company, Inc.

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August 20, 2003
Page 2

7. Inc. for the quarter ended June 30, 2003 (Exhibit 6); and
Funding Statement (Exhibit 7).

The Applicant respectfully requests that the attached financial information made under trade secret protection as private, proprietary information pursuant to Commission Rule 1220-1-1-.01(3)(g).

We trust that you will find this financial information to be sufficient for purposes of compliance with the Commission's request of August 7, 2003. Please contact the undersigned if there are further questions or comments. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

GERRY & SAPRONOV LLP



Walt Sapronov
Attorney for Cypress Communications
Operating Company, Inc.

WS/cm

Encs.

cc: Ms. Patsy Fulton
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
Ms. Deena Snipes (w/o encs.)
Cypress Communications Operating Company, Inc.